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MEDIA NOTE

More Grants for Humanitarian Mine Action

The Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement in the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Political-Military Affairs has awarded thirty-one grants worth over \$2.1 million to twenty non-governmental organizations and to UNICEF to clear landmines, teach mine risk education, render assistance to mine survivors, and conduct related research. These grants augment the U.S. Department of State's \$78.5 million humanitarian mine action budget for FY 2006. Following is a summary of the grants.

- Catholic Relief Services (www.crs.org): \$74,677 to teach primary school children in Quang Tri Province, Vietnam about the dangers of unexploded ordnance (UXO) and landmines.
- CIREC (Centro Integral de Rehabilitacion de Colombia; www.cirec.org): \$70,000 for a landmine survivors assistance program in rural areas of Colombia.
- Clear Path International (www.cpi.org): \$75,000 for an agricultural and vocational training rice mill for mine survivors in Battambang, Cambodia, and \$60,000 for a mine survivors assistance project in Vietnam to be matched by private funds.
- Cranfield University (www.cranfield.ac.uk): \$55,000 to monitor mine and UXO victim data, \$45,000 to identify gaps in Angola's national mine action planning and recommend solutions, costs and timelines, and \$40,000 to develop better management and quality assurance/quality control performance indicators for mine action.
- DanChurchAid (www.dca.dk): \$74,748 to conduct explosive ordnance disposal and UXO and mine risk education in Sudan's Nuba Mountain region.
- Freedom Fields USA (www.freedomfieldsusa.org): \$50,000 for landmine clearance in Cambodia to be matched by private funds.
- The HALO Trust (www.halotrust.org): \$65,000 to clear landmines in the K5 mine belt in Northwest Cambodia, and \$50,000 to demine and conduct battlefield area clearance in South Sudan. Both grants are to be matched by private funds.
- The Humpty Dumpty Institute (www.thehdi.org): \$63,200 to expand a UXO/mine survivors assistance mushroom growing project in Quang Tri Province, Vietnam, and \$54,550 to identify mine affected countries that would benefit from commoditization of surplus U.S. foods to fund mine clearance.
- International Documentary Association (www.documentary.org): \$22,437 to support production of a documentary film, "Bombhunters," to raise global awareness of Cambodia's dire problem of UXO tampering by scrap metal recyclers.
- Landmines Blow! (www.landminesblow.com): \$20,000 to provide clean well water to mine affected populations in Sray Snam District, Cambodia.
- MAG America (www.magamerica.org): \$60,000 to support an all-female UXO clearance team in Xieng Khouang Province, Laos.

- The Marshall Legacy Institute (www.marshall-legacy.org): \$69,214 to support the Children Against Mines Program (CHAMPS) to teach U.S. children about the global landmine problem and raise funds to provide mine detecting dogs to Bosnia and Herzegovina, and \$55,927 to provide six mine detecting dogs to a mine affected country that receives assistance from the U.S. Humanitarian Mine Action Program.
- The Mine Action Information Center (<http://maic.jmu.edu>) at James Madison University: \$65,140 to create a guidebook that integrates UXO and mine casualty data into national mine action programs; \$61,254 to produce an adaptive technology catalog for survivors of explosive remnants of war; and \$45,371 to study the degree of prevalence, if any, of U.S.-origin landmines and UXO in mine affected countries.
- National Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation (NCDR): \$236,300 to support mine risk education in Jordan.
- One Sri Lanka Foundation (www.onesrilanka.org): \$50,000 for a matching funds partnership, in conjunction with The HALO Trust and the Julia Burke Foundation, to clear landmines and UXO in Sri Lanka's Jaffna Peninsula.
- The Polus Center for Social & Economic Development (www.poluscenter.org): \$59,380 to conduct a needs assessment for mine action managers on mine survivors assistance programs and present a pilot model on survivors assistance at a Senior Mine Action Managers Course, with the Mine Action Information Center.
- UNICEF (www.unicef.org): \$145,600 to conduct mine risk education for children and youths in Tajikistan's Rasht Valley and Badakhshan Province.
- Survey Action Center (www.sac-na.org): \$73,993 to develop practical economic decision support tools for mine action, and \$69,611 to investigate the role of informal "village demining" in humanitarian mine action.
- Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation (www.vvaf.org): \$74,995 to complete an operational model of VVAF's Operational Activity Security Information System (OASIS) that would provide to relief and development workers unclassified, comprehensive information on safety and security in dangerous locations.
- World Education (www.worlded.org): \$75,000 to develop Lao capacity to support survivors of UXO and landmines, and \$75,000 for UXO clearance in Laos' Plain of Jars region in order to increase local silk production.
- The Marshall Legacy Institute, Survey Action Center, and the Mine Action Information Center: \$68,542 for a joint project, "Big Bang – Developing a Global Estimate of Humanitarian Mine Action Requirements."

Visit www.state.gov/t/pm/wra to learn more about the U.S. Department of State's humanitarian mine action and small arms/light weapons abatement programs.